

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A document browser that merges and displays additional information with document data, including text data and/or image data, that can be displayed on a display device, comprising:
 - an additional information receiving means for receiving input of the additional information;
 - a browsing means for merging and displaying on the display device the document data with the additional information;
 - 10 a positional information obtaining means for obtaining the positional information of the additional information in the document data;
 - a properties information obtaining means for obtaining properties information of the additional information;
 - an additional information storage means for storing the additional information with the positional information and the properties information;
 - 15 an additional information searching means for searching the additional information stored in the additional information storage means based on the properties information of the additional information; and
 - a search results display means for displaying on the display device the search results found by the additional information searching means.
2. The document browser according to claim 1, wherein the document data is an HTML document, an XML document, or other structured document.
- 25 3. The document browser according to claim 1, wherein the properties information includes: attribute information included in the additional information such as line color, level of transparency, and line thickness; or other properties data

of the additional information such as a shape classification, size, or date and time of input.

4. The document browser according to any of the claims 1, wherein the
5 additional information receiving means comprises a pen tablet, a mouse, or other pointing device.

5. The document browser according to any of the claims 1, wherein the
10 additional information is displayed semi-transparently so that the document data is identifiable when the additional information is merged with the document data.

6. A document browsing method in which additional information is merged and displayed with document data, including text data and/or image data, that can be displayed on a display device, comprising:

15 a step of displaying the document data on a display device;
a step of receiving an input of additional information with respect to the document data displayed on the display device;
a step of merging and displaying on the display device the document data with the additional information;

20 a step of obtaining the positional information of the additional information in the document data;
a step of obtaining properties information of the additional information;
a step of storing the additional information with the positional information and the properties information;

25 a step of searching the additional information stored in the additional information storage means based on the properties information of the additional information; and

a step of displaying on the display device the search results found by the additional information searching means.

7. A recording medium in which a program is recorded for executing a document browsing method on a computer, the document browsing method merging and displaying additional information with document data, including text data and/or image data, that can be displayed on a display device, and comprising:

a step of displaying the document data on a display device;

a step of receiving the additional information input to the document data displayed on the display device;

a step of merging and displaying on the display device the document data with the additional information;

a step of obtaining the positional information of the additional information in the document data;

a step of obtaining properties information of the additional information;

a step of storing the additional information with the positional information and the properties information;

a step of searching the additional information stored in the additional information storage means based on the properties information of the additional information; and

a step of displaying on the display device the search results found by the additional information searching means.